

## The Forgiveness of God

By Oswald Chambers

*In Him we have...the forgiveness of sins... —[Ephesians 1:7](#)*

Beware of the pleasant view of the fatherhood of God: God is so kind and loving that of course He will forgive us. That thought, based solely on emotion, cannot be found anywhere in the New Testament. The only basis on which God can forgive us is the tremendous tragedy of the Cross of Christ. To base our forgiveness on any other ground is unconscious blasphemy. The only ground on which God can forgive our sin and reinstate us to His favor is through the Cross of Christ. There is no other way! Forgiveness, which is so easy for us to accept, cost the agony at Calvary. We should never take the forgiveness of sin, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and our sanctification in simple faith, and then forget the enormous cost to God that made all of this ours.

Forgiveness is the divine miracle of grace. The cost to God was the Cross of Christ. To forgive sin, while remaining a holy God, this price had to be paid. Never accept a view of the fatherhood of God if it blots out the atonement. The revealed truth of God is that without the atonement He cannot forgive— He would contradict His nature if He did. The only way we can be forgiven is by being brought back to God through the atonement of the Cross. God's forgiveness is possible only in the supernatural realm.

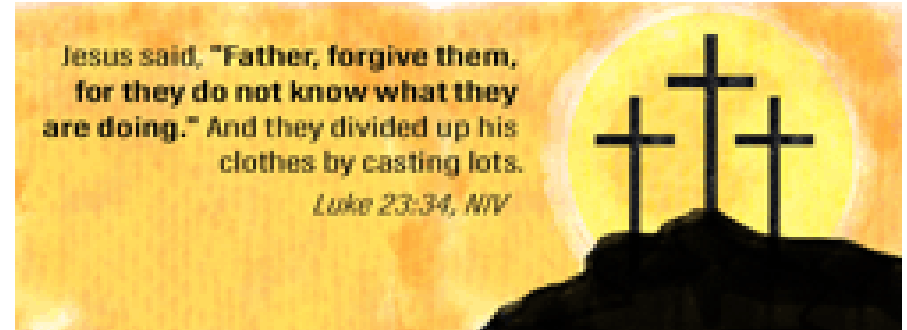
Compared with the miracle of the forgiveness of sin, the experience of sanctification is small. Sanctification is simply the wonderful expression or evidence of the forgiveness of sins in a human life. But the thing that awakens the deepest fountain of gratitude in a human being is that God has forgiven his sin. Paul never got away from this. Once you realize all that it cost God to forgive you, you will be held as in a vise, constrained by the love of God.

[Ezekiel 14-15; James 2](#)



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## WORSHIP SERVICE

March 16, 2025

Second Sunday of Lent

### PRELUDE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CALL TO WORSHIP** We Gather Together #131  
The Lord's Prayer

**OPENING HYMN** Nothing But the Blood #362  
Canticle of Covenant Faithfulness #125

**GOSPEL LESSON** Mark 11:20-25

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Freely, Freely Owens

**PRAYERS AND PRAISE OF THE CHURCH FAMILY**  
**HYMN OF PRAYER** He Touched Me #367

**GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERING**  
**SPECIAL MUSIC** Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive Knight  
Soloist, Stephanie Drawdy

**DOXOLOGY** Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow #94

**SERMON TEXT** Matthew 18:21-35  
**SERMON** Just Forgive Them Rev. Ott

**CLOSING HYMN** Grace Greater Than Our Sins #365

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

**OUR PRAYERS:** Ed Newington, Carrie Fender, Mike Fanchette, Bo Hetrick, Bobbie McLaine, Debra Smith

**OUR PRAISES:** Bill Howell, Joe Ritter, Hayes Harris

**Nursing Homes/Shut-Ins/Distant Members:** Jane Brown, Nina Crosby, Lucille Culpepper, Sarah Anne Dean, June Dyches, Lynn Harrison, Joy Lawson, Jeanine Price, Gene Rhodes, Rusty Riddle, Kay Speaks, Miriam Westbury.

**Military Service:** Elijah and Kaeleigh Forni, Matthew Mangum

**Audio/Video Technician** John Thomas

**The Women's Bible Study** of "Jude" will meet this afternoon at 3:00.

**The Jr. and Sr. UMYF** groups will meet today at 5:30pm

**Easter Lilies:** This year we will use lilies on the altar on Easter Sunday. The cost of the lilies will be \$30.00 each. There will NOT be a deadline to order as we will have only 25 lilies. So only the first 25 paid orders will be accepted. If you do not wish to have a plant, you may still put a dedication in the bulletin. Just write on the dedication slip "no plant". An order form can be found in the Narthex or simply write the information on an offering envelope. Place the order form in the offering plate along with your check to pay for the flowers. You may also pay online with a "designated gift".

The altar flowers are given in honor of Shane and Bailey Zaunbrecher for their 1<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary by Mark and Sheri Stone.



Darlene Mangum 16<sup>th</sup>  
Shelley Thomas 19<sup>th</sup>  
Jenny Bunton 20<sup>th</sup>

